

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Ken MATSUSHITA *et al.* )  
) Group Art Unit: Not Assigned  
Serial No.: Not Assigned )  
) Examiner: Not Assigned  
Filed: September 30, 2003 )  
)  
For: NETWORK RELAYING )  
DEVICE AND NETWORK )  
RELAYING METHOD )  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the document listed on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed documents is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-9832 - discloses a network relay and packet coupling method. Packets addressed to the same destination are coupled as long as the resultant data does not exceed the MTU (maximum transfer unit) of a

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transmission path. By coupling the packets in this manner, the load on the network is reduced. The relevance of this document is also discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.

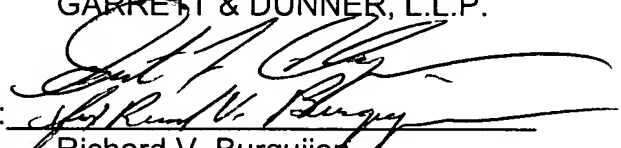
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 30, 2003

By:   
Richard V. Burgujian  
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Enclosures  
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04329.3154	Serial No.	Not Assigned
Applicant	Ken MATSUSHITA <i>et al.</i>		
Filing Date	September 30, 2003	Group:	Not Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	2002-9832	1/11/02	Japan			No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1394 TA Document 1998003, "AV/C Digital Interface Command Set General Specification", April 15, 1998, pp. 55-56

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce